

## PRACTICAL PEARL: Developmental Delay

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early identification of developmental delays or disabilities is important.</li> <li>• Timely identification leads to appropriate referrals for intervention, consideration of the etiologic diagnosis, as well as support and anticipatory guidance.</li> </ul> <p>Reference: Identifying Infants and Young Children With Developmental Disorders in the Medical Home: An Algorithm for Developmental Surveillance and Screening  <a href="https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/118/1/405">https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/118/1/405</a></p>
<b>INITIAL EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT BY PRIMARY CARE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing developmental surveillance and standardized developmental screening including the modified checklist for autism and toddlers at 18 months and two years.</li> <li>• Sharing pertinent history and or documentation with the Developmental Clinic</li> </ul>
<b>WHEN TO REFER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a child's MCHAT-R shows concern, refer if 2 or more items are positive.</li> <li>• Indications for further evaluation include poor joint attention, lack of showing gestures, and repetitive movements or rigid play.</li> <li>• Skill regression at any age.</li> <li>• Significant delay in developmental milestones, such as no two word phrases by 2 years or not walking at 18 months.</li> <li>• High lead levels.</li> <li>• Genetic or other conditions likely to result in significant delay.</li> <li>• Determine the level of delay or presence of specific conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, and assist in referral for services.</li> </ul>
<b>HOW TO REFER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (413) 794-KIDS</li> </ul>
<b>WHAT TO EXPECT FROM BAYSTATE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL VISIT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality developmental assessment and reporting.</li> <li>• Appropriate testing will be completed after an initial clinical visit. Testing may not be necessary for all children referred.</li> <li>• Recommendations for intervention or other services</li> <li>• Recommendations for etiologic evaluations (Genetic and /or Neurology) when significant delays are found.</li> <li>• Ongoing follow up of developmental and behavioral concerns in collaboration with the Medical Home.</li> </ul>